

What is claim 1 is:

1. A method for notifying a viewer of at least one event on a viewing device comprising:

monitoring at least one transmission signal;

5 extracting information from said at least one transmission signal, said information corresponding to data entered into a database;

providing a notification for said at least one event from said extracted information; and

providing at least one mechanism for responding to said notification.

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2. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising:

providing at least one mechanism for switching said viewing device to said at least one event.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said extracting includes comparing information in said monitored signal with said information corresponding to data entered into said database.

20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said providing a notification includes providing a visual notification.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said providing a notification includes providing an aural notification.

25 6. The method of claim 2, wherein said at least one event includes at least one program.

7. A system for notifying a viewer of at least one event on a viewing device comprising:

30 a storage device for storing data entered into said storage device;  
a microprocessor coupled to said storage device, said microprocessor programmed for:

monitoring at least one transmission signal;

extracting information from said at least one transmission signal,  
said information corresponding to said stored data;

providing a notification for said at least one event from said  
5 extracted information; and

providing at least one mechanism for responding to said  
notification.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein said microprocessor is additionally  
10 programmed for:

providing at least one mechanism for switching said viewing device to  
said at least one event.

9. The system of claim 7, wherein said extracting includes comparing  
15 information in said monitored signal with information corresponding to said  
stored data.

10. The system of claim 7, wherein said providing a notification includes  
20 providing a visual notification.

11. The system of claim 7, wherein said providing a notification includes  
providing an aural notification.

12. The system of claim 7, wherein said at least one event includes at least one  
25 program.

13. A computer-usable storage medium having a computer program embodied  
thereon for causing a suitably programmed system to notify a user of a desired  
event by performing the following steps when such program is executed on the  
30 system:

monitoring at least one transmission signal;

● extracting information from said at least one transmission signal,  
said information corresponding to data stored in a user database;

providing a notification for said at least one event from said  
extracted information; and

providing at least one mechanism for responding to said  
notification.

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